



News Release

For immediate release: December 21, 2010

(10-207)

Contacts: [Tim Church](#), Communications Office
[Donn Moyer](#), Communications Office

360-236-4077

360-236-4076

Department of Health offices will close December 27 for temporary layoff

OLYMPIA — All Washington State Department of Health offices will be closed to the public on Monday, December 27 due to state budget reductions.

The law, ESSB 6503, calls for reductions in agencies that are part of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. Ten temporary layoff days are part of the package that will reduce spending by an estimated \$70 million. December 27 is the fifth of those days, which extend from July of this year through June of 2011.

A small number of agency employees in patient safety and laboratory testing are exempt from the temporary layoffs and will work regular schedules. The Department of Health is headquartered in Tumwater. It also has offices at Spokane, Yakima, Richland, Kent, and Shoreline.

Regular office hours will resume Tuesday, December 28. A complete list of [state agency temporary layoff days](#) (www.ofm.wa.gov/layoff/default.asp) is available online.

###

Visit the Washington Department of Health website at <http://www.doh.wa.gov> for *a healthy dose of information*.